

UNAPPROVED

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
@Memorial Library Community Room

MARCH 5, 2009
7:00p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by First Selectman Janet M. McCarty. Also present were Stephen A. Fontana, Second Selectman and Michael J. Freda, Third Selectman.

Ms. McCarty called the Girl Scouts in attendance to the front of the room and with them read a proclamation declaring the week of March 8-14, 2009 Girl Scout Week in North Haven. She noted that a copy of the proclamation would be posted in the Town Hall the following week to acknowledge Girl Scout Week. In a letter dated February 18, 2009, Sharon Bellinger, Girl Scouts of America, had requested a proclamation for Girl Scout Week.

At this time, there were no public comments relative to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of February 2, 2009.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint Donald A. Olson, 11 Matthew Lane, as the Department of Motor Vehicles Hearing Officer, term to expire 1-1-11.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint Fire Chief Vincent Landisio, 11 Broadway, as the Open Burning Official, term to expire 1-1-11.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint David Carney, 56 Hayward Road, Hamden, CT 06514 as Animal Control Officer, term to expire 12-31-09.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Chrystal Rashba, 76 Clifton Street, Wallingford, CT 06492 as Assistant Animal Control Officer, term to expire 12-31-09.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty explained that she would like to amend the agenda to include an appointment to the Housing Authority, to fill the unexpired term of Stephen F. Darley, term to expire 12-31-10.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to amend the agenda to vote on the appointment to the Housing Authority.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Anthony P. Solli(U), 53 Fieldstone Court, to the Housing Authority, to fill the unexpired term of Stephen F. Darley, term to expire 12-31-10.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to ratify the labor contract between the Town of North Haven and North Haven Library Employees Union Local 1303-147, Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the following resolutions:

Library Roof Repair

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Finance, the Board of Selectmen recommend an appropriation not to exceed \$100,000 from the unappropriated fund balance for the repair of the roof and related work on the North Haven Memorial Library; said work as described in the report of Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. dated February 23, 2009.

Ms. McCarty explained that there has been a serious flooding problem at the North Haven Memorial Library since shortly after the building was completed. A study was commissioned and Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. provided a list of recommendations necessary to correct the problem. Richard Kirby, Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. explained the problems they found, including the use of rubber flashing, drainage to single downspouts, inefficient gutters and snowguards, and a void where the old and new building roofs came together. Lois Baldini, Library Director, stated that the leaking had started less than six months after the construction was completed in December 2001. Ms. McCarty stated it is time to repair the building because the leaking will continue and more damage will occur. The repair of the building not to exceed \$100,000 was approved by the Board of Finance and would be put out to bid if approved by the Board of Selectmen and by the public at a Special Town Meeting. Mr. Freda asked how long it would take to complete the work. Mr. Kirby stated that it would take approximately one and ½ months and could be done during the summer or before. There would be no disruption in library services. He also stated that this was a good time to go out to bid, since bids were at a 5-6 year low.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Julius Ardito, 25 Eaton Street, asked if lead would be more efficient for the flashing.

Mr. Kirby stated that lead is not used because of environmental concerns and that zinc coated copper is used.

Senior Tax Credit

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Finance, the Board of Selectmen recommend an increase in the property tax credit to eligible taxpayers, from \$300 to \$350, by amending Town Ordinance 184-18, Tax Relief for Elderly and Permanently Disabled

Ms. McCarty explained she has looked into three programs which would help our seniors and the disabled with their property taxes: tax freeze, tax deferral or an increase in the tax credit ordinance. In 2007, when she looked into the issue, it was determined that a tax freeze would lead to a 2009 loss of revenue of more than \$500,000. Ms. McCarty also noted that a tax deferral program was not popular with most seniors she spoke with since the money would return to the town when the property was sold or when an estate was settled. An increase in the tax credit from \$300 to \$350 would create a \$27,500 loss in revenue for the 550 people who now qualify. Ms. McCarty stated that the increase was not as much as she would like but was what the town could afford based on the current economic climate. The Board of Finance had unanimously voted for the increase in the tax credit.

Mr. Fontana stated that the tax credit had started at \$250 several years ago and that an increase was necessary to keep up with the value of the credit.

Mr. Freda stated he supported the increase 100%.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to call for a Special Town Meeting, to be held on Monday, March 16, 2009, at 7:00p.m. in the auditorium of North Haven High School, 221 Elm Street, North Haven, CT. to consider and act upon the recommendations of the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen on the resolutions pertaining to the following issues:

- a) Todd Drive and Todd Drive South/ Pine Brook Drainage Project
- b) Valley Service Road Project
- c) Bid Limit Increase
- d) Library Roof Repair
- e) Senior Tax Credit

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty addressed the request by the Registrars of Voters for a change to one central polling location for referenda and an increase in compensation, specifically the addition of medical benefits. She stated that she had asked the members of the Board of Finance for their opinion on these issues. None of the members had endorsed a change in polling location or medical benefits for the registrars. Mr. Doheny responded by saying he did not have a chance to review the information. Ms. McCarty stated she did not support a change to a central polling location because of concerns about congestion. Also, registrars, as part time employees, are not eligible for medical benefits. Mr. Fontana agreed with the Board of Finance not to act. Mr. Freda was also concerned with the traffic dilemma that could occur with one central polling location. Even though he had voted for an increase in compensation for the registrars in the past, he stated he could not support an increase because of the uncertainty with the budget this year.

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following property tax refunds:

Marco or Deborah A. Baldarelli, 36 Turner Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$456.61

Carmine J. or Laura Bracale, 29 Mansfield Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$250.37

CAB East LLC, P.O. Box 67000 Dept #231601, Detroit, MI 48267, in the amount of \$297.52, and in the amount of \$107.08, and in the amount of \$90.69, and in the amount of \$137.78, and in the amount of \$26.68, and in the amount of \$107.28, and in the amount of \$89.60, and in the amount of \$56.68, and in the amount of \$127.91, and in the amount of \$350.82

Ralph Capasso Jr. & Donna L. Calandrelli & Surv, 10 North Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$772.84, and in the amount of \$729.36

John R. DeFilippo, 17 Ridgewood Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$298.69, and in the amount of \$366.08

Lynne A. Digioia, 41 Winnett Street, Hamden, CT 06517, in the amount of \$227.05

Edart Truck Leasing, 185 W. Service Road, Hartford, CT 06120, in the amount of \$305.34

Ford Motor Credit Co., PO Box 67000, Dept 211601, Detroit, MI 48267-2316, in the amount of \$217.69

Deborah L. Forte, 14 Woodmere Circle, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$84.80, and in the amount of \$86.28, and in the amount of \$91.58, and in the amount of \$96.50, and in the amount of \$86.10, and in the amount of \$76.32, and in the amount of \$70.50

Marc L. Fortini, 10 Ridgewood Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$266.87, and in the amount of \$215.26

Susan Haller, PO Box 185280, Hamden, CT 06518, in the amount of \$463.52, and in the amount of \$18.94, and in the amount of \$425.91

Richard K. Hellein, 28 Tanglewood Drive, Hamden, CT 06518, in the amount of \$216.18

Kenneth A. or Mariann Kastenhuber, 271 Spring Road North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$109.63

Gary M. & Deborah A. Konopka & Surv, 28 Angel Place, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$97.06, and in the amount of \$356.86, and in the amount of \$145.32

Philomena Marak & Donna Scaramella, 39 Half Mile Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$407.04, and in the amount of \$376.00

Andrew A. Melillo, 23 Melillo Circle, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$33.28

Mark Porto, 20 Ridgewood Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$569.86, and in the amount of \$6.36

Timothy W. Rockefeller Jr., 515 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

Guadalupe Rojas, 200 Ella Grasso Blvd., New Haven, CT 06519, in the amount of \$95.00

VW Credit Leasing, Inc., 1401 Franklin Blvd., Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$80.89, and in the amount of \$50.44

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following bond release, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission:

Nicholas J. Harding Trustee for Michael Schiavone, 175 Universal Drive, Total Release in the amount of \$5,000.00

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 7:00p.m. in the Library Community Room. She reminded everyone to attend the Special Town Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the North Haven High School auditorium.

The Board entertained comments from the public.

Pamela Parrella, 25 Trumbull Place, Registrar of Voters, stated that her job had doubled in size due to new state and federal laws. She was requesting equal treatment under the law which she thought should entitle her to a health benefit package. She asked that the Board reconsider their decision.

William Gambardella, 1014 Hartford Turnpike, Town Treasurer, stated that the Library contract, just settled and approved by the Board, included more contributions from employees in the fields of health insurance and pension. This helps the Town moving forward because it enables us to keep the services that we have and our employees paid.

James Reilly, 29 Rimmon Road, stated that he was a roofer and that the flooding problem at the library was not 100% a roof problem, but a plumbing problem. Ms. McCarty asked him to review the report from Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc.

Ann DeMatteo, New Haven Register, asked which town contracts went to binding arbitration. She was told that the library contract went through mediation, but that Public Works and Fire are in arbitration.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. McCarty moved for adjournment at 8:00 p.m.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes